

# SOVIET POLICY IN 'VARTLMI

Tudeh. Others have maintained that Qa- a::i was i \atri jtfc Iranian who used the technique of friendliness to\* ;ard the Tudch is a subterfuge against the Russians. \VLip\_tever the collect answer, the fact remains that the Tudeh. de-pite all its ^nti-co:rpradore philosophy, was glad to avail itself of Oa\am's i.;pp'~rt. ^i::h support vis not to be scorned, for it nie^nt a split in the ranks of ihc very class tha: naturally would be considered hostile to Soviei influence.

Still another example, more col ~;rul perhaps, T^as that -;f Mozarrar Firuz. Firuz, a member of an ancient and influential f^mil;, -<-as not too successful in the early years of his career. He was sent t3 Vr^sli-ingron as a secretary of the Iranian Legation before the war but became involved in some embezzlement srair. This eventually compelled him co resign from ihe diplomatic service. Some members of his family suffered persecution and death under the regime of Shah Reza, and this fact made him bitter toward the d\*> nasty. When the exiled former Premier Seyyid Zia ed-Din returned to Iran in 194^, Firuz offered him his services and became editor of *Rz'd:-E?r.~:iz*, Zia's ofEcial organ. The editorship and the active role played in Zia's party kept him, of course, fully employed and probably -well recompensed, but he did not become wealthy. Rumor had it that he faced financial difficulties. For some time his association with Zia was cordial despite a basic disagreement in their attitudes toward the Shah. Then in 1944-1945 Firuz gave signs of going to the other side of the fence. Although never officially a member of the party, he emerged eventually as a collaborator of the Tudeh. He was to be-

come notorious by virtue of the role he played in the Irano-Soviet crisis of 1945-1946. In the postwar period his change of heart brought him for a short period to the summit of influence in Iran and culminated in his appointment as Ambassador to Moscow in 1946. In 1947 on his way to Iran he mysteriously disappeared. No news has been heard of him since.

Direct Soviet propaganda was supplemented by that of the Tudeh whenever need arose for indirect action. Iranian nationalism could, of course, be best stressed by the Iranians themselves. Hence the Tudeh assumed the role of protector of the Iranian nation against Western imperialism. In its attempts to stir up hatred against the